

REMARKS

The Preliminary Amendment is filed together with a Request For Continued Examination. The Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 13, 2003 (Paper No. 13). Claims 1 to 26 are in the application, of which Claims 1, 18, 19, 23 to 26 are the independent claims. Claims 1 to 3, 8, 11, 18 and 19 are being amended, and Claims 21 to 26 are being added, herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested. Entry hereof and early passage to allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests approval and entry of the drawing amendments presented herein, and acceptance of the attached replacement drawing sheets. More particularly, Figure 2A is being amended to add a line between boxes 107 and 108. Support for the change can be found in the originally-filed specification, including the description found commencing at page 11, line 15 and at page 16, line 15, for example. In addition, the legend for Figures 3A to 3C is being amended to correct a typographical error, such that "PES" is being changed to read "PTS", or packetized transport stream, as discussed in the specification commencing at page 17, line 7, for example.

Initially, Applicant's undersigned attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for the July 29, 2004 interview. During the interview, it was agreed that packetizing compression-encoded data in accordance with received packet size control information comprising data length information for controlling a length of a first data train would clearly define over the applied art. It was agreed that Applicant would amend each of the independent claims to so state.

Applicant submits that Claims 1, 18 and 19 are in condition for allowance. New Claim 25, which has similar features, is also believed to be in condition for allowance.

New Claims 23 and 26 recite a decoding apparatus, and Claim 24 recites a decoding method, which decodes a second data train generated from a first data train packetized in accordance with the above-discussed data length information. Claims 23, 24 and 26 are also believed to be in condition for allowance.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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